

MASSACHUSETTS FIRST IN THE FISHERIES.

We Have 13 Per Cent. of the Total Industry of the Entire Country.

Cod Product Most Important of All in the Line of Work.

Washington, D. C., March 15, 1911.—In the forthcoming special United States census report on the fisheries industry of the United States for 1908 to be submitted to the secretary of the Department of commerce and labor by Director E. Dana Durand of the census bureau there are included particular reports on the fisheries of 38 states, Massachusetts heading the list with 13 per cent. of the total of quantity and value of the fisheries of the entire country.

Massachusetts ranked first among all the states in 1908 in the value of fishery products, namely \$7,095,000 and in the amount of capital invested in that industry, \$5,749,000, while in the number of persons employed it ranked third with 11,577; Virginia being first and Maryland second.

Cod, haddock and mackerel were the most important species of fish taken, in Massachusetts, the catch of each of these being larger than that of any other state. Massachusetts ranked first also in the catch of 15 other kinds of fish, and second in 10 others.

The preeminence of this state in the fish industry is due primarily to the great importance of its sailing vessels, or "off-shore" fisheries, the headquarters of which are concentrated in a few ports, notably Gloucester and Boston, long famous as the home of the "Grand Bankers."

Increasing Value of Products.

By comparison of the fisheries statistics for 1889, 1898 and 1902 and 1905, it is seen that since 1889, at each successive canvass, except 1898, a larger value of products was reported than at the preceding canvass, but in the other items, the figures for 1889 are less than for 1898. During the last decade, however, there has been a gradual improvement in the fishing industry in Massachusetts.

In 1908 the districts in which Gloucester and Boston are situated, represented about 70 per cent. of the total number of persons employed, the total capital invested in vessels and shore property, and total value of products.

The number of persons employed in the Massachusetts fisheries formed 8 per cent. of the total for the entire United States, while the investment of capital was larger than that of any other state, comprising 14 per cent. of the total for the United States. Practically 73 per cent. of the total investment in Massachusetts fisheries was in deep water vessels and their outfits, there being a total of 638 crafts with a value of \$4,204,000. The value of sailing vessels and their outfits was almost five times that of the steam vessels.

In the fishery products of Massachusetts, 60 distinct species were represented, the most important being cod, valued at \$1,944,000; haddock at \$1,338,000; and mackerel at \$761,000; which three species constituted 53 per cent. of the value of the total fishery products of the entire state. The cod and the haddock catch brought to port by the "bankers" each exceeded \$1,000,000 in value, while for eight other products, clams, herring, pollock, halibut, lobsters, sperm oil, hake and oysters, values in excess of \$2,000,000 were reported. Flounders, swordfish and scallops had values in excess of \$1,000,000. The product of the vessel fisheries, \$5,497,000, represented 77 per cent. of the total value, and those of the shore and boat fisheries, \$1,598,000 or 23 per cent.

Apparatus of Capture.

In regard to the value of fisheries catch by each form of apparatus of capture, by far the largest amount, \$8,939,000, or nearly 60 per cent. was taken by hand lines. Seines come second with a total value of \$806,000, followed in order by dredges, gill nets, wharf apparatus, lobster traps, etc. Of the total catch with hand lines, cod

in shore and boat fisheries.

Though taken in quantities sufficient to class them among the more important products of the Massachusetts fisheries, oysters were of far less importance than in the states of the South. The quantity taken has increased steadily, but the value of the product has fluctuated greatly. Private beds furnished 96 per cent. of the entire quantity.

Mackerel were taken mostly with seines, 78 per cent. of the total value representing the value of the seine haul. Gill nets took most of the remainder, the catch with this form of apparatus representing 19 per cent. of the total value.

Herring's Large Proportion.

The value of the herring product constituted five per cent. of the total value of fish products for the state and 43 per cent. of the total value of herring for the United States, Massachusetts ranking second to Maine in this respect. The percentage which the catch represents of the total value of products of the state has decreased steadily since 1898. Since 1905, despite a large increase in quantity, this fish has suffered a large decrease in value. Of the total value of the herring product, 72 per cent. was reported by the vessel fisheries.

Pollock was another important species of Massachusetts fishery product, the value of the state catch constituting over three-fourths of the value of the total pollock of the country. Nearly 85 per cent. of the Massachusetts catch was made in vessel fisheries. In value and in relative importance, pollock has increased rapidly and uniformly since 1898, although in 1908 the quantity taken was considerably less than in 1905.

The halibut catch of Massachusetts showed an increase in both quantity and value in 1908 over 1905, but a marked falling off as compared with the returns for other years. In 1889 and 1898 it ranked next to cod, and not until the canvass of 1905 did it represent less than 10 per cent. of the total value of products for the state. The catch of Massachusetts, though far below that of the state of Washington, contributed 20 per cent. of the total value of the halibut product of the United States, and ranked second in importance. Halibut is practically a vessel-fishery product.

The hake product for Massachusetts represented 63 per cent. in value of the catch for the United States, although it decreased in quantity from 1905 to 1908. In spite of the great fluctuations in quantity the value has steadily increased since 1889. It is pre-eminently a vessel-fishery product.

Other Minor Statistics.

The hard, soft and razor varieties of clam were all reported by the Massachusetts fisheries. The last-named were not taken in large quantities; for the other two varieties, the value of the products reported was nearly the same. Clams were taken almost wholly in shore and boat fisheries.

The value of the whale oil, sperm oil and walrus reported for Massachusetts, about two-thirds of which represented the value of sperm oil alone, comprised 68 per cent. of the total reported for the United States in 1908. Since 1889 the value of the whale products of the state has decreased more or less steadily, the year 1898 alone showing a smaller value than 1908. These products which were exclusively vessel-fishery products were taken principally by the New Bedford whaling fleets.

In the catch of lobsters, Massachusetts was second to Maine. The large increase in quantity and value in 1908, as compared with 1905, is worthy of note, compared with the gradual decrease in quantity and slight increase in value shown for prior canvasses. Over 95 per cent. of the total value of the lobster product represented the value of lobsters taken

formed the largest part, \$1,876,000, or about 50 per cent.; followed in order of value by haddock with \$995,000, halibut with \$309,000, hake with \$289,000, and pollock with \$250,000.

The mackerel catch was by far the largest item of value of the fisheries catch with seines, being \$594,000 out of a total of \$806,000 for all other kinds, herring, pollock, haddock, cod, alewives, etc.

Cod Product Most Important.

The most important product of the Massachusetts fisheries was cod which contributed 27 per cent. of the total value in 1908. The state's catch of cod formed 64 per cent. of that of the entire United States. The quantity and value of the product were less in 1908 than in 1899 but greater than for any other year shown. Cod was taken chiefly by the vessel fisheries which reported 93 per cent. of the total value. Nearly the whole product, or 97 per cent. was caught by lines.

Haddock ranked second in value, contributed 15 per cent. of the total value of the Massachusetts fisheries product. The catch formed 80 per cent. of the haddock product, in value, for the United States and was taken almost wholly in the vessel fisheries. About the same proportion of haddock, or 96 per cent. of the total value, was taken with lines, as in the case of cod. Mackerel, which stood third in va-

March 16.

MONEY IN FLOUNDERS.

Dredgers Down on the South Shore Making Good Money This Season.

Flounders have been abundant off Cape Cod, millions coming in off the coast at Hyannis a few years ago, and since that time the 50 or more power boats engaged in catching them have made a lot of money, some of the more successful fishermen cleaning up several thousands of dollars a year.

Provincetown was formerly the headquarters for the fleet of flounder dredgers so called, but when the fish were found off Hyannis in such great numbers the boats went there at once and Hyannisport, from which place the fish are shipped to market, is believed to be the greatest shipping port for flounders along the Atlantic coast.

The scallop fishermen of Hyannis have been making good hauls during the season and taken altogether the season at that place has been the most profitable for many years.

Dredging for flounders is an arduous and often a perilous occupation so that none but the most venturesome and hardy fishermen care to engage in the industry.

The little power boats often run miles out to sea, the flounders being found on the shoals near the lightships that mark the sunken sand rips near Cross Rip and the Handkerchief.

Lying half buried in the sand, the flounders spend the winter months waiting for the warming of the water to run inshore to the breeding grounds. The mammoth dredges hauled over the sand rips in a depth of a fathom or two drive the flounders from their winter quarters and as the fish attempt to escape they are caught by the huge net that stretches astern of the beam of the dredge.

The dredge and its load of flounders often weighs nearly a half ton and it is a hard task to haul it inboard, a short heavy mast with block and tackle operated by a winch being employed to do the work.

Boats of big beam are required for the flounder dredges, as the ordinary fishing boat would turn turtle in getting the dredges inboard and nearly all the boats engaged in the work were especially made for the business.

Lunenburg N. S. Fisheries Notes.

The extraordinary high prices obtained for the fish the past year, has resulted in the building of a large number of new vessels for the fishing skippers of this county. Not all have been built in local yards, some of them being constructed at Shelburne and other points.

With the thawing out of the harbor here last week, three vessels—Clintonia, Capt. Emil Mack; Carrie L. Hirtle, Capt. James A. Hirtle and Henry L. Montague, Capt. Abrom Cook—left on their spring trip to the banks. Others are rapidly fitting out and will closely follow. The Clintonia and Carrie L. Hirtle, are captained by noted fish killers, while the Henry L. Montague was the high-line vessel of the county last year.

The accident to the government steamer Stanley will prevent the Riverport fleet from getting away for some time, though, if this weather continues, the ice at that port may thaw out in a week or two.

Not in years has the harbor at Mahone Bay been so thoroughly frozen over. It is possible that some vessels of the fleet will be delayed on account of the ice, though, if they get away in two weeks' time they will be early on the grounds.

March 16.

Against Packing Sardines in Oil.

Advices from Stravanger, Norway, note that the west Norwegian Canning Association are recommending to discontinue packing sardines in cottonseed or peanut oil after January 31, passed by the association to cease packing in above oils, other canneries are not doing so.

Norway Sardine Season Over.

Cable advices from Norway state that the sardine fishing ceased on Jan. 31, under an agreement to which all packers are parties. No attempt to take sardine fish according to this agreement will be made before the summer season opens.

March 17.

FISH CONCERN INCORPORATED.

HENRY E. PINKHAM COMPANY HAS CAPITAL STOCK OF \$30,000.

The commissioner of corporations has granted a charter as a Massachusetts business corporation to the Henry E. Pinkham Company, incorporated, of this city, with a capital stock of \$30,000.

Under the terms of its charter, the corporation is authorized "to buy, sell, store, handle, import, export, transfer, produce, prepare, cure, pack, cut deal in and deal with fish, both fresh, salt, pickled, smoked, canned and preserved of every description, including shell fish, fish by-products and all other products of the sea and shore, fish oils, olive oil, canned goods and groceries of every nature and description."

Howard F. McMahan of Cambridge is president of the new corporation, and Henry E. Pinkham of Gloucester is its treasurer. Elliott C. Rogers of Gloucester is clerk, and the board of directors will consist of Messrs. Pinkham, McMahan and Joseph P. Fitzgerald of Gloucester.

Three hundred shares of stock, each of a par value of \$100, may be issued by the corporation, but only 157 shares are to be issued at the present time. Of these shares, Messrs. Pinkham and McMahan subscribe for 75 each and Mr. Fitzgerald subscribes for five. This stock is to be paid for as follows:—Cash, \$1000; machinery, \$1500; merchandise, \$2500; bills receivable, \$3700; trade marks, \$2000; and good will, \$5000. Total, \$15,700.

March 17.

Portland Fish Notes.

A good number of the local fleet came into the harbor with fish Tuesday and the sea food brought good prices. The following fares were reported: Albert W. Black, 7000; Eva and Mildred, 9000; Albert D. Willard, 5000 for the F. S. Willard Co., Lochinvar, 6000; Robert and Carr, 5000; Bernie and Bessie, 1500 and Fanny Reed, 3000 for the dealers on Commercial wharf.

Today, unless something goes wrong at the Maine legislature, the herring bill, over which there has been so much discussion, will be passed. A number of Portland people will go down to help it on its way through. The bill will not alter conditions as they now exist in Casco bay, but will lessen the seining to the eastward. Seining in this section will go on just as it has, with few restrictions.

Cod in Chesapeake Bay.

The Booth Fisheries Co. of Baltimore received a nine-pound codfish in a box of fish from Deal's Island, Chesapeake Bay, last Monday. The fish excited great interest in the wholesale fish market. It is a very unusual occurrence for a cod to be caught in the Chesapeake Bay. On very rare occasions a stray cod has been caught in lower Maryland waters, but never before has one been found so far up the bay as Deal's Island. The cod, of course, being a deep water sea fish accidentally entered the bay while making a tour of Southern waters and remained there until caught.

March 17.

The Newfoundland sealing fleet which sailed recently comprised 19 steamers, seven of which were equipped with wireless outfits which will keep the owners in full touch with the progress made.

March 17. ✓

STRONG OPPOSITION AT COLD STORAGE HEARING.

Secretary Freeman of Board of Trade Spoke For Fishing Interest.

Bills Aimed to Limit Time of Goods in Freezer and Tag Them.

State House, Boston, March 16.—Gloucester people turned out in large numbers at the State House this afternoon to oppose the bill of John F. McCarthy of Boston, which provides for the sale of articles that have been kept in cold storage for certain lengths of time.

The bill provides that it shall be the duty of the persons in charge of cold storage warehouses to mark conspicuously, and quoting the bill, "Conspicuously, legibly and durably upon every package or other receptacle placed therein the date on which it was so placed and when such package or receptacle is withdrawn from cold storage the date of withdrawal shall be marked in the same manner."

The bill further provides that it shall be unlawful for any person to sell or offer for sale at wholesale or retail any article of food taken from cold storage unless there is plainly marked and conspicuously displayed on or near the same a statement that it was taken from cold storage and a statement of the length of time during which it was kept in cold storage. Any violation of this proposal is liable to be punished by a fine of a thousand dollars or imprisonment of one year in the house of correction, or both.

Although the committee room was not as crowded as it was this morning, considerable interest was shown in the statements made by the various people, most of them being men who have to deal with cold storage goods direct. The whole afternoon was given the side that opposed this bill and the first speaker was R. W. Freeman, representing the Board of Trade of Gloucester.

In opening, Mr. Freeman said he represented the Gloucester Board of Trade and the fishing industry, who are interested in this bill. He declared he protested against any legislation which provided a limitation of the time that food fish should be allowed to lay in a cold storage house to less than a year and that bait fish should be allowed to lay for 18 months. He claimed that the storage of fresh food fish was never anything more than a surplus of the season, and a carrying over to another season the deficit that would exist in that season. Freeman said the cruel haddock trade would suffer in general if this bill were enacted.

Mr. Freeman also explained to the committee that certain fish were caught, and could only be caught at a season of the year when there was no demand for them and they had to be put in cold storage until such time of the year as the trade for them began. He also explained that the putting of fish in cold storage did not

advance the price to the consumer and showed that smoked herring carried over to the opening of next season sold at the same price as the season before; with no advance. He explained that the owners of the fish stored paid for the storage themselves. The most of the fish put into cold storage sold to the poorer classes, and the storehouses were really a benefit, as they assisted greatly in maintaining a uniform and even and low price. He explained to what a great extent the fishing fleet, especially the spring and winter fleets were dependent on the cold storage plants for their bait; which had been caught in the fall and put in cold storage for use during the fishing season and called attention to the fact that without this cold storage bait supply, the great winter fresh fish fleet would be practically unable to operate, or at least would be seriously handicapped.

"What the Gloucester Board of Trade would favor is an inspection by the Federal officers or local Boards of Health, rather than a law, limiting the time of storage," He said:

J. M. Marshall of Gloucester, a cold storage warehouse man, said he could see no real evidence had been offered to show that cold storage plants are not properly conducted. "Not an egg, or not a fish, so far as been shown has come out of a cold storage plant in poor condition." He maintained that there is no need and that there is no public demand or any real reason for the laws that are asked. This bill is very crudely drawn, he explained, and I do not believe that there is anyone present that can point out the real good this bill will do and I certainly trust that the committee will report in leave to withdraw!

Samuel Merrill, a sportsman, said he was in opposition to this bill because he would have to eat all his venison directly after the open season, and there would not be a chance to put it in cold storage.

Isaac N. Small of North Truro, representing the fish and cold storage houses in that district, explained to the committee the method of preserving fish by means of cold storage. He stated that a great deal of the fish are taken from the Cape in the month of May and are kept in cold storage until December and such a bill would work a hardship on the cold storage warehouse men.

After hearing several more storage men, the committee closed the hearing. The committee will take the matter under consideration and will make a report to the legislature at a later date.

Those who attended the hearing from this city were Thomas J. Carroll, Benjamin A. Smith, Frank C. Pearce, J. E. Lenhart, Richard W. Freeman, William F. Moore, Capt. Carl C. Young, M. J. Palson and J. Manuel Marshall, Esq.

March 17. ✓

DEBATE ON RECIPROCITY.

Col. Clark, Henry M. Whitney and John B. Osborne at Portland.

Canadian reciprocity was discussed pro and con by President Albert Clarke of the Home Market Club, Henry M. Whitney of Boston, and John B. Osborne of the Bureau of Trade Relations of the State Department, at the Portland Economic Club dinner last night.

Colonel Clarke declared the proposed agreement discriminated against the farmers, lumber men and fishermen and was entirely one-sided and to Canada's advantage.

Mr. Whitney argued that the opening of the great area of Canada as a

source of food supply is most important to this country.

Mr. Osborne, who was one of the commissioners who negotiated the agreement said that the free exchange of food products between the two countries would tend to equalize and steady prices, and that the fishery industries of New England would benefit rather than suffer by the arrangement. It was in harmony with the principles of protection, he said, as wages and the standard of living in the two countries were practically the same.

March 17. ✓

QUAHAUG FISHERMEN GETTING READY.

Muscular Labor Dredging With a Rake With 60-Foot Handle.

The quahaug fishermen, the hundreds of Cape Cod residents who make their livelihood by dredging for bivalves, better known as "little necks," from the harbors and bays along the South Shore, are getting ready to work as soon as the wintry gales have ceased sweeping the shores of Cape Cod.

Unlike the oysters, the quahaugs are found in the markets all the year round, although the dredging for them is not carried on to any extent during the winter season. Nearly all the quahaugs that reach the market in the winter are taken from beds where they have been planted during the summer season, the others being dredged by the few fishermen who brave the perils and cold of the winter along the coast or on the flats.

While the quahaug fishermen generally close the season at the first approach of winter, they are by no means idle during the cold weather, the scallop and sea clam industry offering an attractive and profitable business.

This winter the sea clams and scallops have been found in large numbers on the south side of the Cape, near Chatham, and the fishermen who have been permitted to go in quest of them have made, they term it, "big money."

On the north side of the Cape at Orleans, Wellfleet and Eastham, the principal industry of the fishermen is dredging for quahaugs, and just as soon as the weather will permit they will be away at work.

Dredging for quahaugs in Cape Cod bay where nearly all the fishermen of Orleans have to go to find the bivalves, is no easy task, the men being obliged to use rakes with a handle nearly 60 feet long so deep is the water where the fish are found in paying quantities.

Big power boats are employed by the fishermen, and the best fishing grounds are miles off the coast.

The rakes, nearly two feet wide, have the teeth turned up and are close together so as to prevent the shellfish from falling through. Thrown overboard at the stern of the fishing boat as far as it is possible for the fishermen to heave them, the rake is sunken into the muddy bottom and pulled along as the man operating it walks forward on the deck of his boat.

When the rake is astern of the boat, the handle upright in the water, it is pulled up and the contents dumped into the boat, the refuse being later separated from the quahaugs.

Working with a 60-foot handle rake all day long requires not only skill but muscle, and none but men inured to hardship and exposure can long engage in the industry.

There are state laws regulating the taking of quahaugs. Certain sizes must be put back into the water and each town has regulations that govern the fishermen engaged in the industry. Seed quahaugs are not allowed to be taken from the waters along the shores of Cape Cod and all the laws governing the industry are rigidly enforced.

March 17. ✓

SMELT SEASON A FAILURE.

Close Time Has Now Been Established on This Electable Fish.

The close season on smelt fishing went on Wednesday at midnight and will continue in force until June 1.

The winter fishing through the ice at Essex this year has been a failure, but very few fish having been taken. Members of the local anglers' fraternity attribute the scarcity in a measure, to the presence of the Italian fishing boats in the river last fall and the use of drag nets, in which a considerable number of smelts were taken while dragging for herring.

A number of the local smelt fishing devotees are considering the matter of petitioning the fish and game commission to advocate legislation prohibiting the use of small mesh seines in Essex river.

Hundreds of the sons of Cape Cod who formerly followed the sea for a livelihood are now engaged in one or the other branches of the shell business, and although the work is harder, the men make better wages and each year the number of fishermen is increasing.

Eastham and Wellfleet fishermen are ready for business just as soon as the weather permits them to go out, and from indications the shell fish business during the coming season will be the biggest in the history of Cape Cod.

The fishermen say that the fish ought to be found in great quantities, as there has been little or no ice in the harbors and bays during the winter, and they believe that not a single shell fish along the coast was killed by the anchor ice.

Anchor ice, a number of years ago, killed millions of scallops along the south coast of Cape Cod. Once the ice forms in the shallow waters and lodges on the flats, every kind of shellfish is destroyed, and except for the anchor ice, so far as is known, there are no enemies of the quahaugs or scallops.

Breeding on natural beds along the coast, the quahaugs and scallops, the fishermen believe, will for all time furnish a good livelihood for those who can stand the hardships and exposure incidental to the task of dredging for them, while the flounder fishermen say that the groundfish cannot possibly be exterminated.

New grounds where they make their winter quarters are being discovered each year and the industry is now one of the most profitable on Cape Cod.

March 17. ✓

ONLY HANDFUL OF FISH TODAY

T WHARF DEALERS WILL HAVE
TO DRAW ON RESERVE
SUPPLY.

But little in the way of fish receipts was expected at T wharf today, for the very good reason that all the market boats are in port, either here or at Gloucester and Provincetown and the weather has been too bad for the off-shore crafts to do any fishing. The arrivals this morning number but two and they are shore boats with only 11,000 pounds between them, the goods selling at \$4 right through, for everything.

Yesterday the sch. Mary DeCosta brought in a fine trip and sold and took out, but the steam trawler Ripple, which came in after a hard buck across the bay, hung off until today, selling this morning and getting \$2.30 for her old haddock and \$2.75 for new.

Boston Arrivals.

The receipts and prices in detail are:

Sch. Annie and Jennie, 2200 haddock, 500 cod, 300 hake.

Sch. Stranger, 5000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1500 hake, 500 pollock.

Steamer Ripple, 64,000 haddock, 4500 cod, 1000 hake, 300 pollock.

Sch. Mary DeCosta, 55,000 haddock, 25,000.

Off-shore haddock \$2.30 to \$2.75 per cwt.; shore haddock, cod, hake and pollock, \$4.

March 17. ✓

Protecting Scallops Against Canadian.

Claiming that Canadian fishermen come over into the American waters and drag scallop beds in the town of Pembroke, Maine, to supply New Brunswick scallop canneries, Representative Porter of Pembroke has asked for the passage of a law closing the beds to fishing. Pembroke, which is one of the easternmost towns in the United States, considers the scallop beds a valuable asset as the demand for this shellfish is constantly increasing and the supply is limited.

NO FISH IN AT THIS PORT.

ROUGH WEATHER KEPT THE
FLEET TIED UP AT THE
WHARVES YESTERDAY.

There have been no fishing arrivals since last report. Yesterday the fleet all remained in port because of the heavy northwester, the only crafts to sail being the little market boats, Annie and Jennie and Stranger, and they both went to Boston, to market their small catches of fish at T wharf today. Incidentally it might be noted that these are the only arrivals at T wharf this morning.

None of the boats went out during the night, but this morning, although it is still rough and blowing outside, several of their number went out, also a big fleet of the off-shore vessels, all of which will have a fine run off to the fishing grounds.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Senator Gardner, salt trawl banking.
Sch. Bohemia, salt trawl banking.
Sch. Ella G. King, Newfoundland coast salt codfishing trip.
Sch. Kineo, halibuting.
Sch. Lucania, haddocking.
Sch. Frances P. Mesquita, haddocking.
Sch. Effie M. Prior, haddocking.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, haddocking.
Sch. Gladys and Nellie, haddocking.
Sch. Stranger, Boston.
Sch. Annie and Jennie, Boston.
Sch. A. C. Newhall, haddocking.
Sch. Margaret Dillon, haddocking.
Sch. Rebecca, haddocking.
Sch. Mooween, halibuting.

Today's Fish Market.

Georges handline salt cod, \$5.55 for large and \$5.00 for medium.
Georges halibut, 10½¢ per lb., for white and 7½¢ for gray.
Bank halibut, 10¢ per lb., for white and 8¢ for gray, with the heads off.
Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.
Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.
Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.
Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.
Splitting prices for fresh fish:
Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80¢.
Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium, \$1.30; snappers 50¢.
Haddock, \$1.30 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

Pensacola Receipts.

Receipts for last week at Pensacola, Florida, were:
Warren Fish Company, smack Clara P. Sewall, 21,000 lbs. red snappers; smack Ariola, 19,000 lbs. red snappers; smack Mineola, 20,000 lbs. red snappers and 4000 lbs. groupers; smack Osceola, 9000 lbs. red snappers; smack Emma Jane, 4000 lbs. red snappers; smack Mary L. Hart, 4000 lbs. red snappers and 4000 lbs. groupers; smack Emma Wixon, 3000 lbs. red snappers; smack Franklin, 2500 lbs. red snappers and 1000 lbs. groupers.
E. E. Saunders & Company, smack Priscilla, 11,000 lbs. red snappers; smack Favorite, 7000 lbs. red snappers; smack Angelina, 15,000 lbs. red snappers.

Some Like Horse Mackerel.

The American consul at Yarmouth reports that during the season recently closed fully 100 albacores were shipped to the United States. These fish, generally known as horse mackerel, are caught in the Bay of Fundy and are very large. One weighing 500 pounds with head eliminated is no rare sight. Rarely is one shipped weighing less than 300 pounds. Prior to a few years ago no attention was paid to shipping these fish, but it was discovered that they were marketable in Boston and that a certain class of people were fond of them, and the shipment has increased every year. The average price at Yarmouth the past season was 3½ cents a pound.

Protetizing Against Russia.

It is understood at St. Petersburg that American Ambassador Rockhill has communicated to the Russian government representations against the 12-mile limit in the proposed White Sea fishery bill.
The White Sea fishery bill, which is before the Douma, aims to extend the limit of territorial waters from three miles to 12 miles. Russia recently captured several English trawlers for fishing within the 12-mile limit from the mouth of the White Sea.

March 17.

WILL INCREASE 33 PER CENT.

Canadian Prediction of What Will Happen to Their Fishing Fleet.

United States Consul Deedmeyer, stationed at Charlottetown, P. E. I., in the course of a recent report, said: "When the pending American-Canadian reciprocity agreement is in force the number of craft and men employed in the Canadian waters will, it is expected, increase 33 per cent. This means a larger demand for all kinds of fishermen's supplies. "About 90 per cent. of the articles used in the fisheries are admitted free of duty. Among those on the free list may be mentioned the following: Fish hooks for deep sea or lake fishing, not smaller in size or number than 1.0, bank cod, pollock, and mackerel fish lines; mackerel, herring, salmon, seal, seine, mullet, net, and trawl twine in hanks or coil barked or not, in a variety of sizes and threads, including gilling thread in balls and head ropes for fishing nets; manila rope not exceeding 1 1/2 inches in circumference; barked marline; net morsels of cotton, hemp, or flax; and fishing nets or seines when used exclusively for the fisheries, not to include hooks, lines, or nets commonly used for sportsmen's purposes."

STRUCK BY WHITE SQUALL.

Mainsail of Sch. Edith Silveira Was Torn to Ribbons.

Wednesday was not a bad day out on the fishing grounds, but the southerly wind played tricks on the fishermen. The Edith Silveira was one of those that suffered from it. She was coming to Boston in the morning and had got to within 10 miles of Minot's light without mishap. Suddenly what the fishermen call a "white squall" struck her and ripped the mainsail, and then seized the larger pieces and tore them up like thin muslin, clearing the whole sail out. The crew had not time to reach the halyards before the sail was ruined. The foresail was not touched by the wind, nor did it appear to have felt it. Other vessels in the same vicinity were not touched by the squall, which seemed to have spent its force on the mainsail of the Edith Silveira.

Reorganization of the Booth Company.

A readjustment of the capitalization of the Booth Fisheries Company is underway. Chicago reports say there will be an authorized issue of debenture bonds to an amount not exceeding \$5,000,000. The debentures will bear six per cent. interest. It may be that not more than \$4,000,000 will be put out this time. From the proceeds of the sale, the present outstanding \$1,425,000 five per cent. debentures will be redeemed at par. Another portion of the proceeds will be used to purchase a salmon fisheries concern, whose name it has been announced is the Northern Fisheries Company.

Some time ago it was officially stated that from the proceeds of the sale of bonds a certain amount would be credited to the treasury as additional working capital.

There will be no change in the present issue of \$2,000,000 six per cent. preferred stock. There have been rumors that this issue would be succeeded by seven per cent. cumulative preferred.

Lost in the Lake Ice.

Two fishing tugs are believed to have been lost in the icy gales which swept Lake Erie Wednesday and Wednesday night. The tugs Sisco of Cleveland and the Silver Spray of Erie, Pa., which left Cleveland Wednesday morning with the fishing fleet, did not return as was expected. There are six men on the Silver Spray and eight on the Sisco.

Steam Fishing Tug Lost.

The steam fishing tug Silver Spray, with a crew of five men, was lost off the Cleveland breakwater, Lake Erie, in the fierce gale of Wednesday night. The bodies were all recovered. A last message from Capt. James F. Purdy, to his wife, and scribbled on a port hole cover which drifted ashore, was found yesterday on the lake front.

Looks Bad for Sealers.

Unfavorable news was received at St. John's, N. F., last night in the first wireless message from the sealing fleet which left port on Monday.

The message indicates that the ice-pack is unusually heavy and that unless milder conditions set in quickly the success of this year's sealing will be seriously affected.

March 17.

Maine Postpones Reciprocity Question.

In the Maine legislature Tuesday, Representative Hersey, who interrupted the Hogan reciprocity resolve on its second reading, succeeded in having it indefinitely postponed by the close vote of 61 to 58.

Herring Cargo at Halifax.

Sch. Iona, from Burin, N. F., arrived at Halifax, N. S., with 300 bbls. frozen herring, and 143 bbls. of salt herring.

March 17.

Maine Herring War Ended.

The big fight between the weir men and the seiners is at an end. Final arrangements were made Wednesday and it has been agreed that Senate bill 147, which requires that persons building weirs shall first get a license, shall be passed without opposition. All other bills, including the Mayo act, are indefinitely postponed. The law is therefore left exactly as it was, and the seiners have a right to fish as they did under the old law.

To Tow New Schooner.

Tug Eveleth has gone to Essex to tow around the new sch. Eleanor DeCosta, recently launched from the yard of Tarr & James.

On Salt Codfishing Trip.

Sch. Ella G. King sailed today on a salt codfishing trip to the Newfoundland coast, under command of Capt. Allen Evans.

March 17.

An Ancient Lobster.

Dennis White and Thomas Howson, dorymates on the sch. Alice M. Guthrie, brought in at T wharf yesterday what appeared to be a real ancient mariner of the lobster family. It was caught on one of their trawls on the southeast Georges. It was sold to Elmer Prior, who paid the two men a good sum. The lobster weighed 15 pounds and was two feet from the head to the end of the tail, 10 inches across the back, and had a single claw 20 inches long and 9 inches across. Its feelers measurer 16 inches.

March 17.

BUILDING VESSELS RAPIDLY.

Nova Scotia Getting Into the Fishing Game in Earnest.

They are building new fishing vessels at Lunenburg and Shelburne, N. S., so fast that it is hard work to keep account of them. A few days ago, what is considered the finest fishing craft in the Nova Scotia fleet, and the largest as well, was launched at Smith & Rhuland's yard at Lunenburg. She is termed an "improvement" on the famous Clintonia model and is 126 feet over all, 11 1/2 feet in the hold and 26 feet beam, which is certainly "some" vessel. The craft is for Adams & Knickle and will be commanded by the famous Capt. Dannie Zinck in the salt bank fishery, for which she will fit right away. Some thought "Reciprocity" would be a good name for her, but she has been christened Harry W. Adams.

March 18.

Want Protection from Americans.

H. H. Watson, member of the Provincial Parliament for Vancouver, urges the enactment of legislation providing for cruisers to patrol the halibut grounds in Hecate Strait to protect the banks against the encroachment of American fishermen. Watson said that \$60,000,000 worth of halibut had been taken from Hecate Strait, and that 80% of this enormous catch had been marketed in Seattle.

A Good Paying Season.

The sch. Marina, Capt. Schmisser of Middle LaHave, handlining, had a catch of 1480 quintals and after cancelling a bill for new foresail and fit and calking from keel to deck paid her shareholders a dividend of \$2243.62.

New Craft for Capt. Firth.

Capt. Uriah Firth will command sch. Judique in the dory handlining codfishery this season. Capt. John McKenzie will go in command of sch. Fannie A. Smith in the same line of fishing.

New Schooner Here.

The new sch. Eleanor DeCosta was towed around here yesterday afternoon from Essex by the tug Eveleth. She will be rigged and fitted at this port and will engage in the market fishery.

March 18.

ONLY 5000 IN AT BOSTON.

PRETTY SMALL SUPPLY FOR THE
DEMANDS OF SATURDAY
LENTEN TRADE.

Five thousand pounds of fish went so far toward supplying the trade of the T wharf dealers, but that is all they have to work on this morning. However, it is Saturday and they have some on hand, so they are not worrying much. They paid \$5 right through for the haddock and cod and by this time the fish are on the way to the consumer. The dealers are looking for a big fleet on Monday. They will probably get some off-shores all right but the shore boats will not fish today and the only chance they will have is that it may be a fish day Sunday. If it is not, there will be no shore fish on the market when the bell rings to start the week.

Boston Arrivals.

The receipts and prices in detail are:
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, 4000 haddock.
Sch. Reliance, 1000 cod.
Haddock and cod, \$5 per cwt.

Who Discovered Dogger Banks?

Who discovered the value of the famous Dogger bank fishing grounds? Thomas May Gray, one of the pioneers of the Grimsby fishing industry, says it was the skipper of a trawler named Button. Every few days Button reached Grimsby with huge catches of fish, and he resolutely declined to tell where he made his hauls. Efforts were made to follow Button's boat, but the skipper was too smart to be detected that way. He would run far out to sea, followed of course; shoot his trawl, and as soon as darkness fell he would lift his gear and slip quietly away. When daylight would come again Button was missing, and the next thing his jealous compatriots would hear would be that Button had been "in with another shipful." He kept his secret for some time, and had a glorious harvest all to himself.

An Unusual Plant.

In the 24th annual report of the Bureau of Industrial and Labor Statistics for the state of Maine for 1910 an interesting description is given of the plant of the Lane-Libby Fisheries Company, at Vinalhaven, with pictures telling perhaps more effectively than words of the enterprise of this well known firm. The report says the plant is the only one in the country combining a cold storage building to furnish bait for the fishermen, a fish factory to take care of their catch, and a glue and oil factory to take care of all the by-products. They pay out for labor at their factory from \$35,000 to \$50,000 a year, besides paying to the fishermen of Vinalhaven and along the coast from \$75,000 to \$125,000 a year for their catch. Their sales from all branches of the business reach over \$300,000 a year.

Growth at Lockeport, N. S.

The Clark's Harbor, N. S., Coast-Guard says:

"Within the year three large fish companies have been incorporated with headquarters at Lockeport, viz, the Lockeport Cold Storage Co., the Lockeport Shipping Company, and the Lockeport Fish Company. The incorporators of the two latter are mostly the same persons, and J. J. Lane is secretary. One corporation sets over to him a large block of preferred and common, for which Mr. Lane undertakes to build and deliver two knock-about schooners of 80 tons each."

Portland Fish Notes.

Not a pound of fish was landed in Portland Thursday either by the regular boats or the small craft. There is, however, no scarcity, though prices are firm.

F. S. Willard & Company, lobster dealers, shipped 2500 pounds of live lobsters to a Chicago concern Thursday, which were billed at 45 cents per pound, the highest prices ever quoted here on so large a lot. Lobsters are becoming exceedingly scarce, and still higher prices are probable.

March 18.

Fishing Fleet Movement.

Schs. Grace Darling, Oliver F. Kilham and Nathalie were at Yarmouth, N. S., Wednesday with fish fares.